

09-05-02

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

re Application of: E. Marlowe Goble et al.
Serial No.: 10/090,293
Filing Date: 03/04/2002
Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR SPINE
JOINT REPLACEMENT
Group Art Unit: 3738
Attorney's Docket No.: MED-3

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

PETITION FOR AUTOMATIC EXTENSION OF TIME TO RESPOND

Applicant hereby petitions for a three (3) month extension of time to respond to the outstanding NOTICE TO FILE MISSING PARTS OF NONPROVISIONAL APPLICATION - FILING DATE GRANTED mailed April 4, 2002 with respect to the above-identified patent application, thereby extending the time for response from June 4, 2002 to September 4, 2002.

A check in the amount of \$460.00 is enclosed to cover the cost of the petition fee. This petition fee has been calculated on the basis of Small Entity status.

In the event that any additional fees may be required to be paid in connection with this matter, please charge the same, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 16-0221. A duplicate copy of this Petition is enclosed for the convenience of the Office.

Thank you.

EXPRESS MAIL MAILING LABEL NUMBER ET916543049US

DATE OF DEPOSIT September 4, 2002

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PAPER OR FEE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE "EXPRESS MAIL POST OFFICE TO ADDRESSEE" SERVICE UNDER 37 CFR 1.10 ON THE DATE INDICATED ABOVE AND IS ADDRESSED TO THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231.

James A. Sheridan

(PERSON MAILING)

James A. Sheridan 9/4/02
PS/MED3.EXT (SIGNATURE)

Respectfully submitted,

James A. Sheridan 9/4/02

James A. Sheridan
Registration No. 43,114
Pandiscio & Pandiscio
470 Totten Pond Road
Waltham, MA 02451-1914
Tel. (781) 290-0060

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